The Philadelphia Divinity School
STIMSON ALCOVE

EVENING CANTICLES

The Plainsong & Mediæval Music Society
Nashdom Abbey
Burnham, Bucks
1929

CVALICTE?
EAEVIMC

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INTRODUCTION

THE ideal implied in the use of the Plainsong Tones for the psalms and canticles is that of a reverent and intelligent recitation of the words, not of singing them to a tune to which they must needs be adapted more or less. The psalm-tone is essentially a pair of reciting notes (corresponding with the half verses), each followed by a more or less elaborated inflexion of the voice, and the words should follow on uninterruptedly and smoothly, without any break between the reciting note and the inflexion in which it ends. The point at which the inflexion begins is indicated in this text by printing that syllable in *italics*. The natural rhythm of the words should be carefully preserved, without any prolongation of the strong syllables or clipping of the weak ones; but there should be a slight *rallentando* and *diminuendo* at the end of each half verse, particularly of the last half. The principle of an entirely natural speech-rhythm is slightly modified by the occasional presence of grouped notes. In any such group, the first note is gently stressed and its successor is light, but neither should be hurried; all notes are equal in time value.

Each half verse should be sung in one breath, except where a bar | is printed to show where breath should be taken. A substantial pause (at least equal to the two last syllables) should be made at the colon: this is in accordance with the old rule, and has the advantage not merely of marking thus (in most cases) the parallelism of the Hebrew poetry, but also of giving the singers time to grasp the second half of the verse in their minds before starting to recite it. The intonation (i.e. the opening pair of notes leading up to the reciting note) should be used for every verse of *Magnificat*, but for the first verse only of *Nunc dimittis*. Each syllable must be sung to a note or group of notes as it comes, and the tie ⁀ shows identity of pitch for the two syllables which it connects. The essential chant

is indicated by the black notes; the hollow note is used to shew the method of treating extra syllables if they occur. A dash – shows that a normal note of the chant is to be omitted at that point.

Where in the first half of the verse there are fewer syllables from the italicised syllable onwards than there are notes in the inflexion of the chant, the last note of this part of the chant is intended to be omitted.

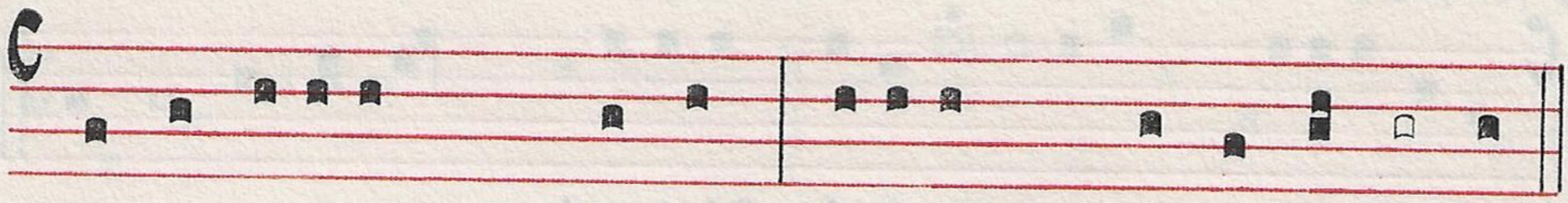
Canticles and psalms should be chanted antiphonally verse by verse. The alternation may be of various kinds: e.g., between men and boys, chanters and choir, the two sides of the church, or choir and congregation. The opening verse or half verse may be precented by the priest or a chanter or chanters.

The chanting of psalms and canticles, being of the nature of reciting rather than of singing, can best be prepared for by carefully reading the words aloud first.

Plainsong needs no accompaniment: the Tones are complete without any harmonies. But, if an accompaniment is desired, it should be quiet and unobtrusive, and should follow the rhythm of the chanting faithfully.

MAGNIFICAT I

Tone I. 1



My soul doth magnify *the* Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in *God* my Sa-viour.

2 For he hath re-*gard*-ed: the lowliness of *his* hand-maid-en.

3 For be-hold from *hence*-forth: all generations shall *call* me bless-ed.

4 For he that is mighty hath magnifi-*ed* me: and hó-*ly* is his Name.

5 And his mercy is on them that *fear* him: throughout all *ge*-ne-ra-tions.

6 He hath shewed strength with *his* arm: he hath scattered the proud | in the imaginá-*tion* of their hearts.

7 He hath put down the mighty from *their* seat: and hath exalted the *hum*-ble and meek.

8 He hath filled the hungry with *good* things: and the rich he hath sent *emp*-ty a⁀way.

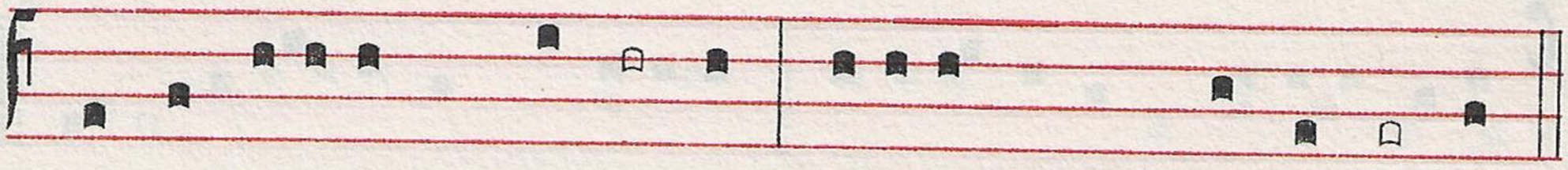
9 He, re-membering his mercy, hath holpen his servant Ís-*ra*-el: as he promised to our forefathers | Abraham and his *seed* for ev-er.

Glo-ry be to the Father, and to *the* Son: and *to* the Ho-ly⁀Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

MAGNIFICAT II

Tone II. 1



My soul doth magnify the *Lord*: and my spirit hath rejoiced in Gód *my* Sa-viour.

2 For he hath re-*gard*-ed: the lowliness of his *hand*-maid-en.

3 For be-hold from *hence*-forth: all generations shall cáll *me* bless-ed.

4 For he that is mighty hath magnified *me*: and holy *is* his Name.

5 And his mercy is on them that *fear* him: throughout all gé-*ne*-ra-tions.

6 He hath shewed strength with his *arm*: he hath scattered the proud | in the imagination *of* their hearts.

7 He hath put down the mighty from their *seat*: and hath exalted the húm-*ble* and meek.

8 He hath filled the hungry with good *things*: and the rich he hath sent émp-*ty* a-way.

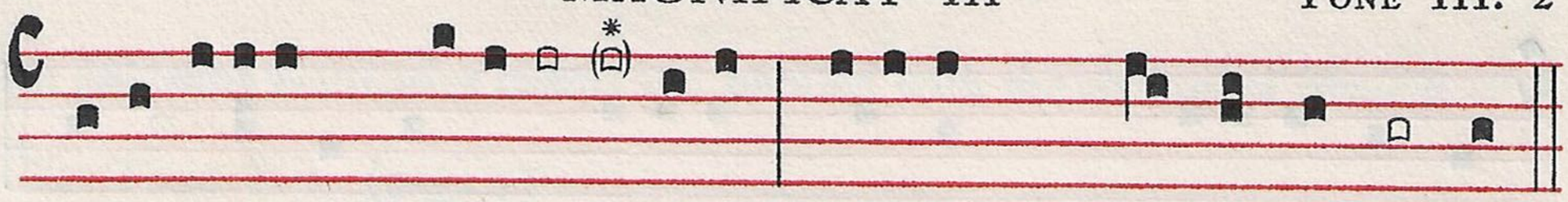
9 He, re-membering his mercy, hath holpen his servant *Is*-ra⁀el: as he promised to our forefathers, | Abraham and his séed *for* ev-er.

Glo-ry be to the Father and to the *Son*: and to *the* Ho⁀ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world withóut *end*. A-men.

MAGNIFICAT III

TONE III. 2



* *Required in Gloria only.*

My soul doth *mag*-ni͡fy the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in *God* my Sa-viour.

2 — — For he *hath* re-gard-ed: the lowliness of *his* hand-maid-en.

3 — — For be-*hold* from hence-forth: all generations shall *call* me bless-ed.

4 For he that is mighty hath *mag*-ni͡fi-ed me: and hó-*ly* is his Name.

5 And his mercy is on *them* that fear him: throughout all *ge*-ne-ra-tions.

6 He hath shewed *strength* with his arm: he hath scattered the proud | in the imaginá-*tion* of their hearts.

7 He hath put down the *migh*-ty͡ from their seat: and hath exalted the *hum*-ble and meek.

8 He hath filled the *hun*-gry͡ with good things: and the rich he hath *sent* emp-ty a͡-way.

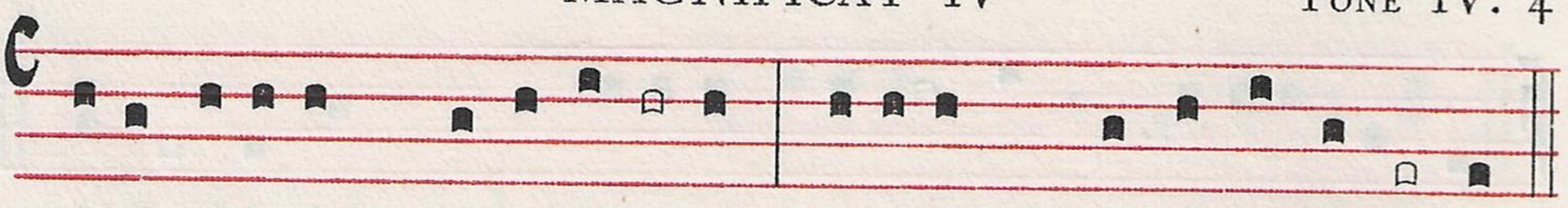
9 He, re-membering his mercy hath holpen his *ser*-vant͡ Is-ra-el: as he promised to our forefathers, | Abraham and his *seed* for ev-er.

Glo-ry be to the *Fa*-ther,͡ and͡ to͡ the Son: and *to* the Ho-ly͡ Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and *ev*-er shall be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

MAGNIFICAT IV

TONE IV. 4



My soul doth magni-*fy* the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced *in* God my Sa-viour.

2 — —For he *hath* re-gard-ed: the lowliness *of* his hand-maid-en.

3 — —For be-*hold*, from hence-forth: all generations *shall* call me bless-ed.

4 For he that is mighty hath magni-*fi*-ed me: and *ho*-ly is his Name.

5 And his mercy is on *them* that fear him; throughóut *all* ge-ne-ra-tions.

6 He hath shewed stréngth *with* his arm: he hath scat-tered the proud | in the imagi-*na*-tion of their hearts.

7 He hath put down the mighty *from* their seat: and hath exalted *the* hum-ble and meek.

8 He hath filled the hungry *with* good things: and the rich he *hath* sent emp-ty a͡-way.

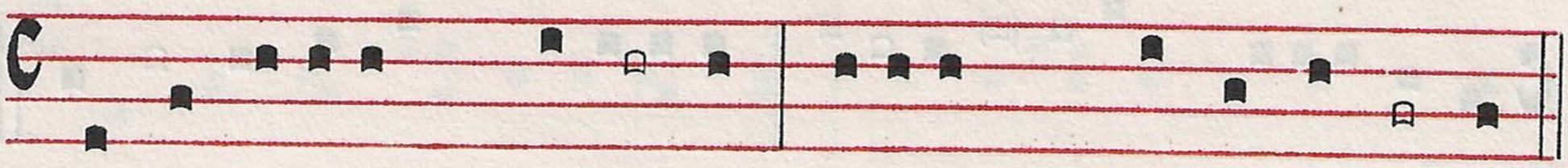
9 He, re-membering his mercy hath holpen his *ser*-vant Is-ra͡-el: as he promised to our forefathers, | Abraham and *his* seed for ev-er.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and *to* the Son:—*and* to the Ho-ly͡ Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and *ev*-er shall be: wórld *with*-out end. A-men.

MAGNIFICAT V

TONE V. 1



My soul doth magnify the *Lord*: and my spirit hath rejoiced in *God* my Sa-viour.

2 For he hath re-*gard*-ed: the lowliness of *his* hand-maid-en.

3 For be-hold from *hence*-forth: all generations shall *call* me bless-ed.

4 For he that is migh-ty hath magnified *me*: and *ho*-ly is his Name.

5 And his mercy is on them that *fear* him: throughout all *ge*-ne-ra-tions.

6 He hath shewed strength with his *arm*: he hath scattered the proud | in the imagi-*na*-tion of their hearts.

7 He hath put down the migh-ty from their *seat*: and hath exalted the *hum*-ble and meek.

8 He hath filled the hungry with good *things*: and the rich he hath sent *emp*-ty a-way.

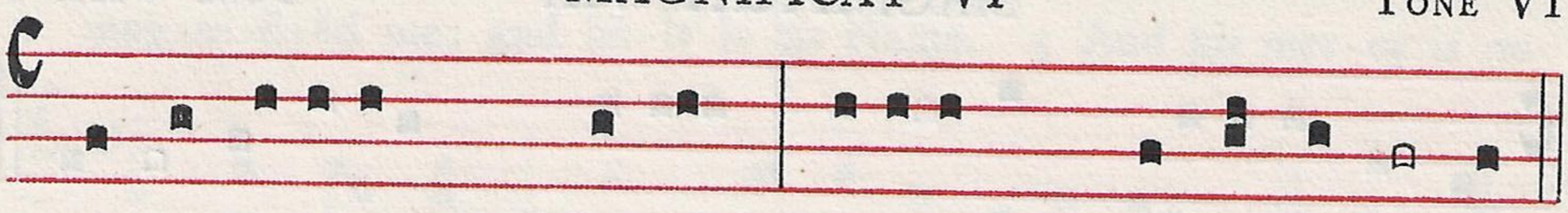
9 He, re-membering his mercy, hath holpen his servant *Is*-ra-el: as he promised to our fore-fathers, | Abraham and his *seed* for ev-er.

Glo-ry be to the Father, and to the *Son*: and *to* the Ho-ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ev-er *shall* be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

MAGNIFICAT VI

TONE VI



My soul doth magnify *the* Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in *God* my Sa-viour.

2 For he hath re-*gard*-ed: the lowliness of *his* hand-maid-en.

3 For be-hold from *hence*-forth: all generations shall *call* me bless-ed.

4 For he that is mighty hath magnifí-*ed* me: and hó-*ly* is his Name.

5 And his mercy is on them that *fear* him: throughout all *ge*-ne-ra-tions.

6 He hath shewed strength with *his* arm: he hath scattered the proud | in the imaginá-*tion* of their hearts.

7 He hath put down the mighty from *their* seat: and hath exalted the *hum*-ble and meek.

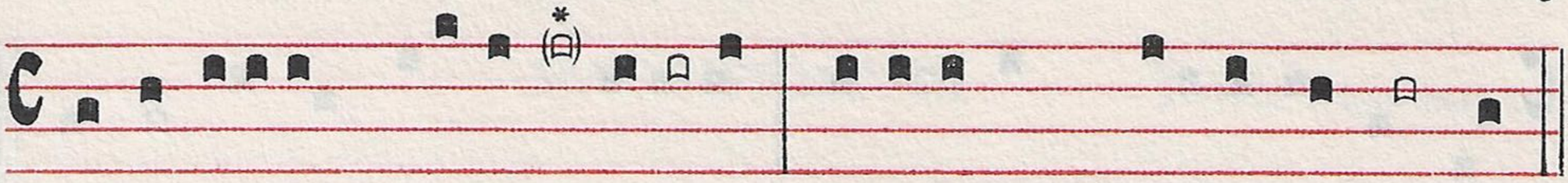
8 He hath filled the hungry with *good* things: and the rich he hath *sent* emp-ty away.

9 He, re-membering his mercy hath holpen his servant Iś-*ra*-el: as he promised to our forefathers, | Abraham and his *seed* for ev-er.

Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther, and to *the* Son: and *to* the Ho-ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

MAGNIFICAT VII — TONE VII. 3



* *Required for verse* 8 *and Gloria only.*

My soul doth *mag*-ni-fy the Lord: and my spirit hath rejoiced in *God* my Sa-viour.

2 — — For he *hath* re-gard-ed: the lowliness of *his* hand-maid-en.

3 — — For be-*hold* from hence-forth: all generations shall *call* me bless-ed.

4 For he that is mighty hath *mag*-ni-fied ed me: and *ho*-ly is his Name.

5 And his mercy is on *them* that fear him: throughout all *ge*-ne-ra-tions.

6 He hath shewed *strength* with his arm: he hath scattered the proud | in the imagi-*na*-tion of their hearts.

7 He hath put down the *migh*-ty from their seat: and hath exalted the *hum*-ble and meek.

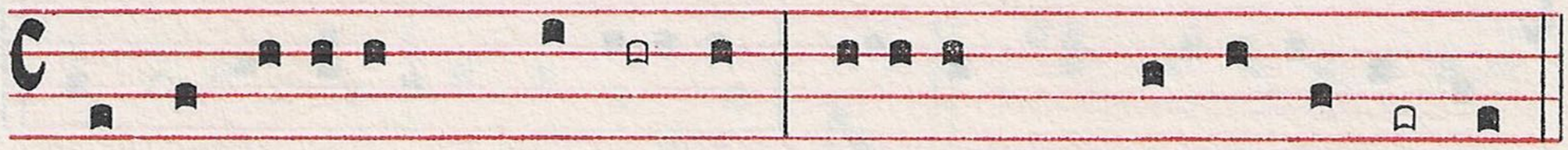
8 He hath filled the *hun*-gry with good things: and the rich he hath sent *emp*-ty a-way.

9 He, re-membering his mercy hath holpen his *ser*-vant Is-ra-el: as he promised to our forefathers, | Abraham and his *seed* for ev-er.

Glo-ry be to the *Fa*-ther, and to the Son: and *to* the Ho-ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and *ev*-er shall be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

MAGNIFICAT VIII — TONE VIII. 1



My soul doth magnify the *Lord*: and my spirit hath rejoiced in *God* my Sa-viour.

2 For he hath re-*gard*-ed: the lowliness of *his* hand-maid-en.

3 For be-hold, from *hence*-forth: all generations shall *call* me blessed.

4 For he that is mighty hath magnified *me*: and hó-*ly* is his Name.

5 And his mercy is on them that *fear* him: throughout all *ge*-ne-ra-tions.

6 He hath shewed strength with his *arm*: he hath scattered the proud | in the imaginá-*tion* of their hearts.

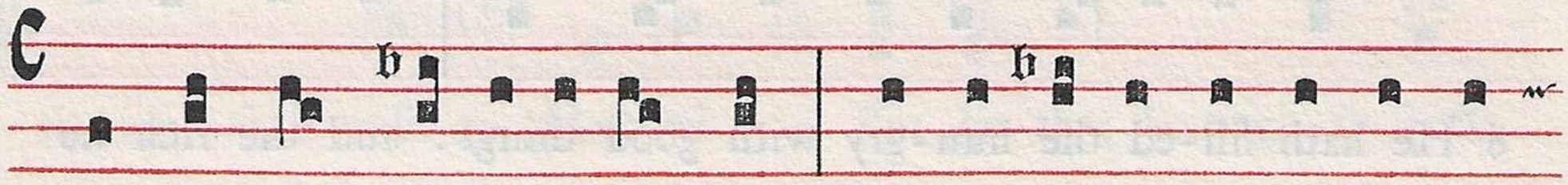
7 He hath put down the migh-ty from their *seat*: and hath exalted the *hum*-ble and meek.

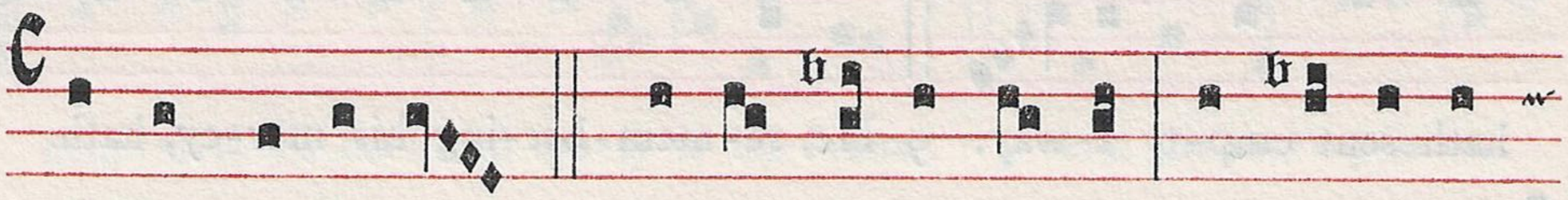
8 He hath filled the hungry with good *things*: and the rich he hath *sent* emp-ty a-way.

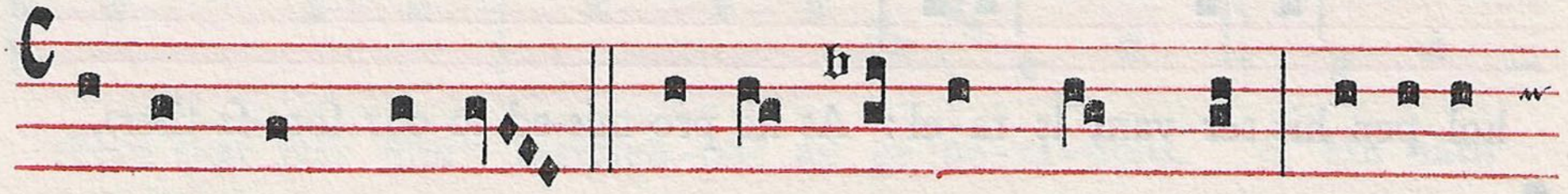
9 He, re-membering his mercy, hath holpen his servant *Is*-ra-el: as he promised to our fore-fathers, | Abraham and his *seed* for ev-er.

Glo-ry be to the Father, and to the *Son*: and *to* the Holy Ghost.

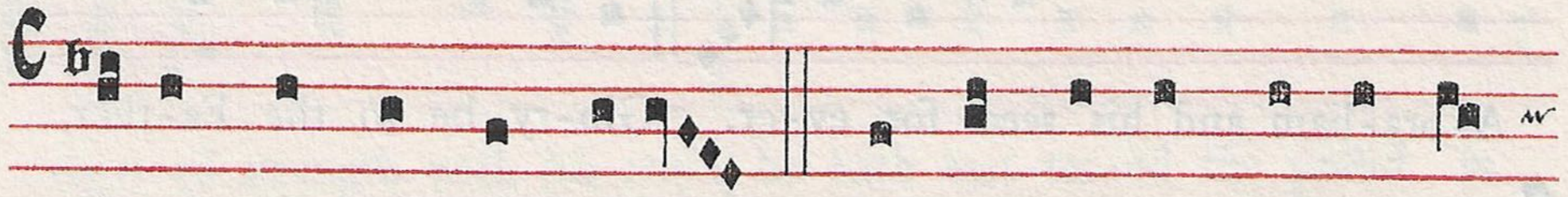
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world with-out end. A-men.



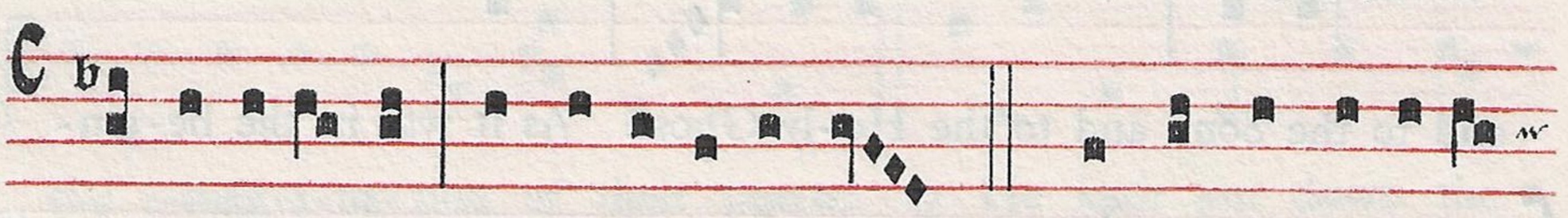
My soul doth mag-ni-fy the Lord: and my spi-rit hath re-joi-ced

in God my Sa-viour. 2 For he hath re-gard-ed: the low-li-ness



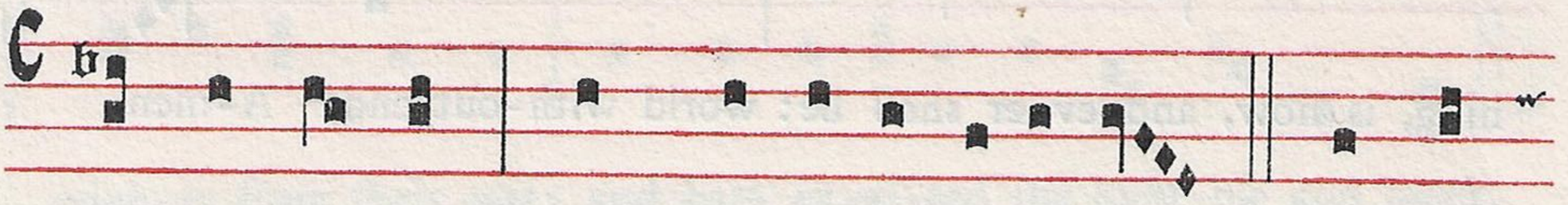
of his hand-maid-en. 3 For be-hold from hence-forth: all gene-



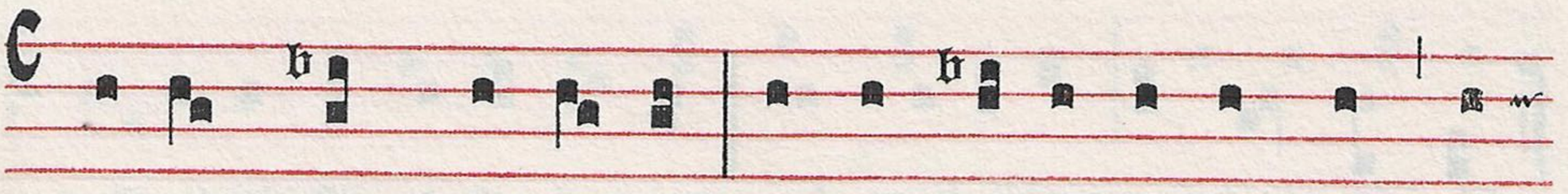
ra-tions shall call me bless-ed. 4 For he that is migh-ty hath



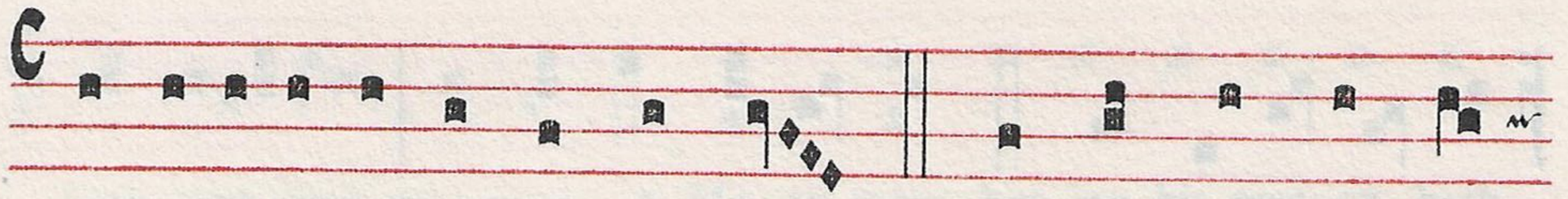
mag-ni-fi-èd me: and hò-ly is his Name. 5 And his mer-cy is on



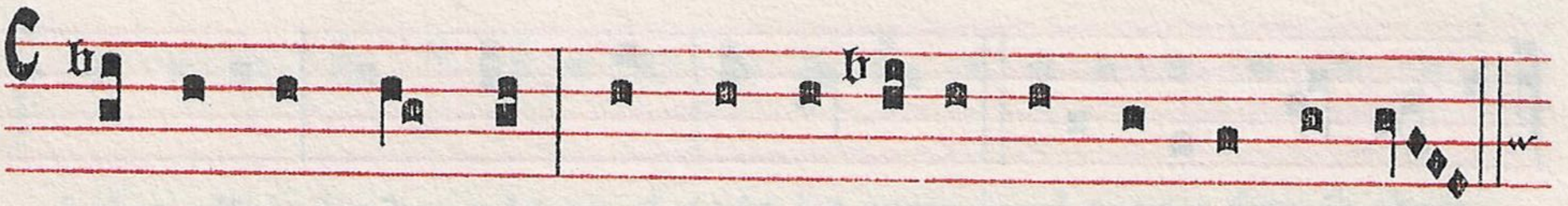
them that fear him: through-out all ge-ne-ra-tions. 6 He hath



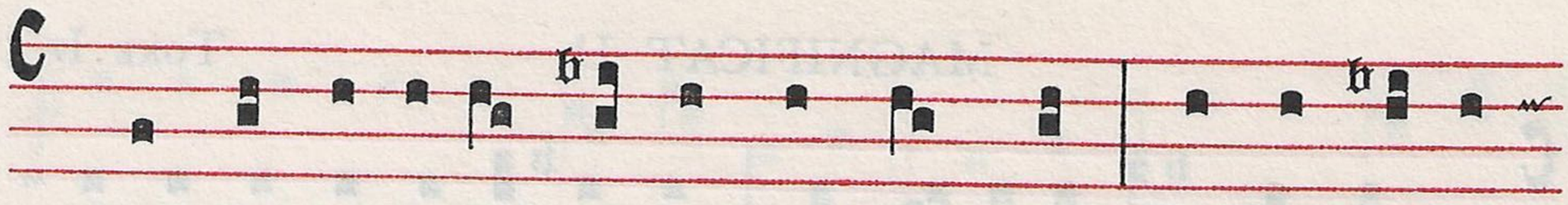
shew-ed strength with his arm: he hath scat-ter-ed the proud in



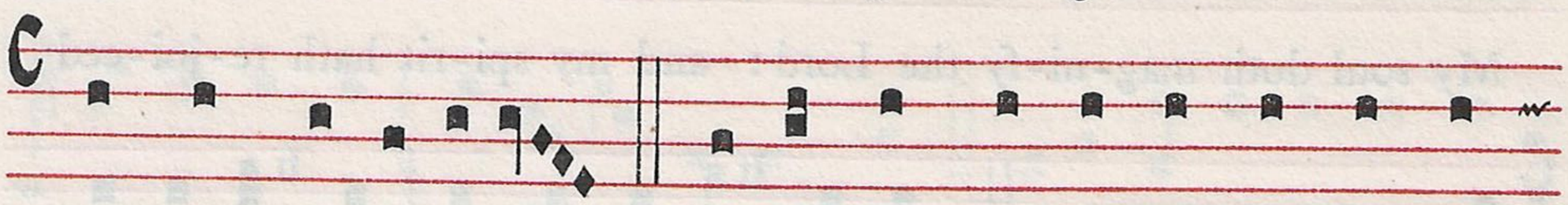
the im-a-gi-na-tion of their hearts. 7 He hath put down the

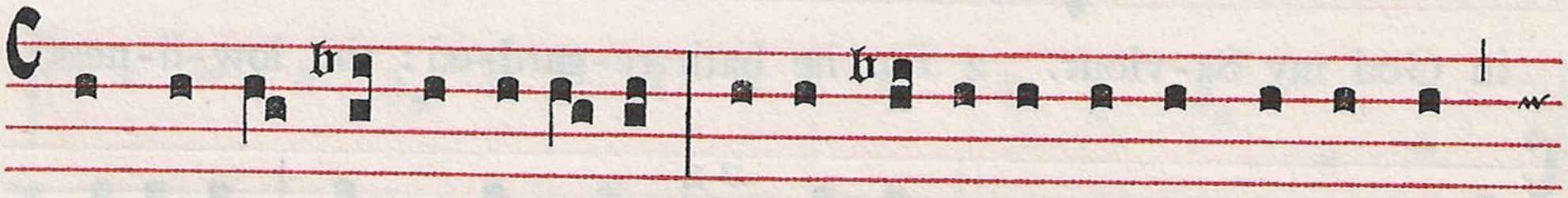
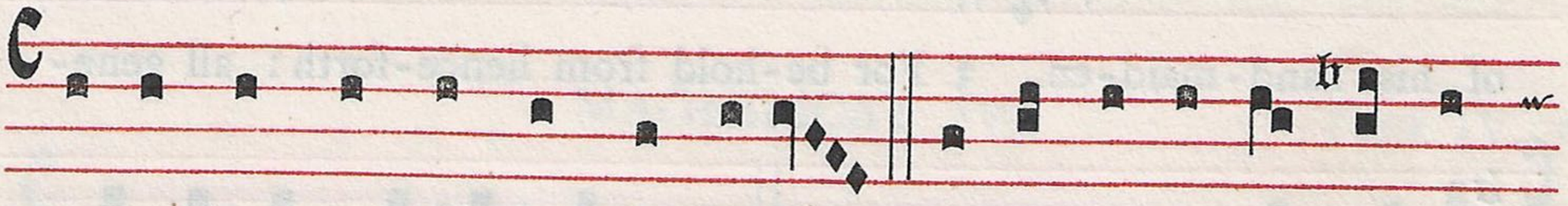


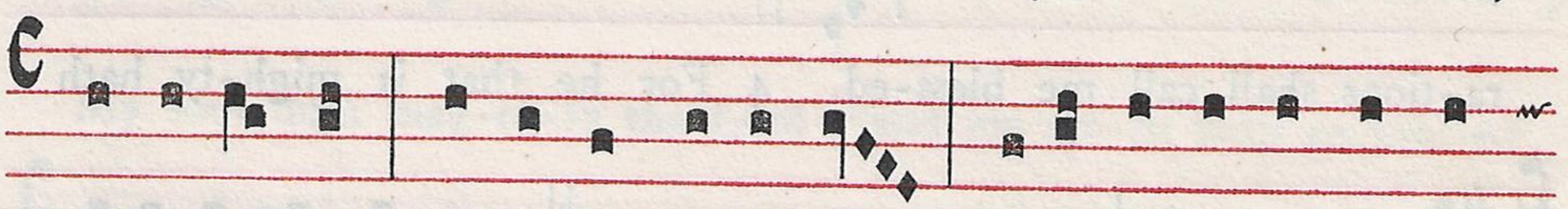
migh-ty from their seat: and hath ex-al-ted the hum-ble and meek.



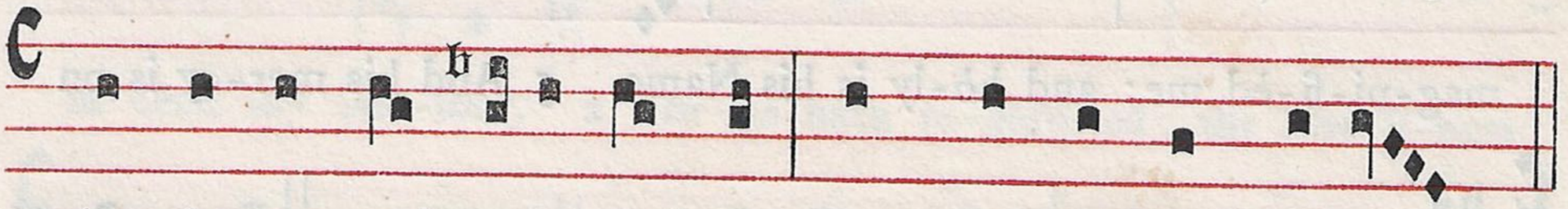
8 He hath fill-ed the hun-gry with good things: and the rich he



hath sent emp-ty a-way. 9 He, re-mem-ber-ing his mer-cy, hath

hol-pen his ser-vant Is-ra-el: As he pro-mis-ed to our fore-fa-thers,

A-bra-ham and his seed for ev-er. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther,

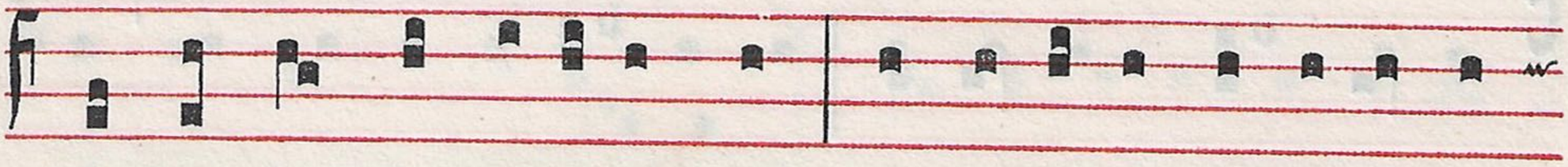


and to the Son: and to the Ho-ly Ghost. As it was in the be-gin-



ning, is now, and ev-er shall be: world with-out end. A-men.

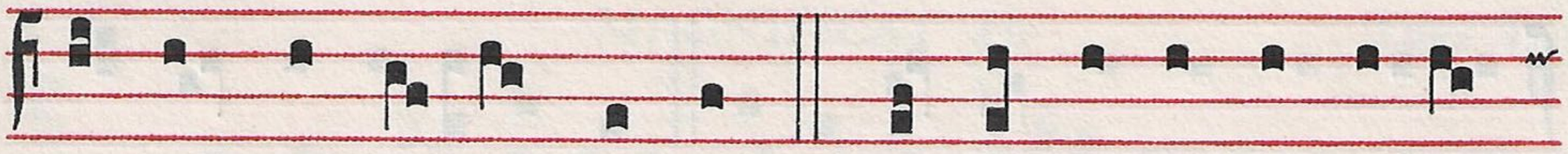
MAGNIFICAT IIb TONE II. 2



My soul doth mag-ni-fy the Lord: and my spi-rit hath re-joi-ced

in God my Sa-viour. 2 For he hath re-gard-ed: the low-li-ness

of his hand-maid-en. 3 For be-hold from hence-forth: all ge-ne-



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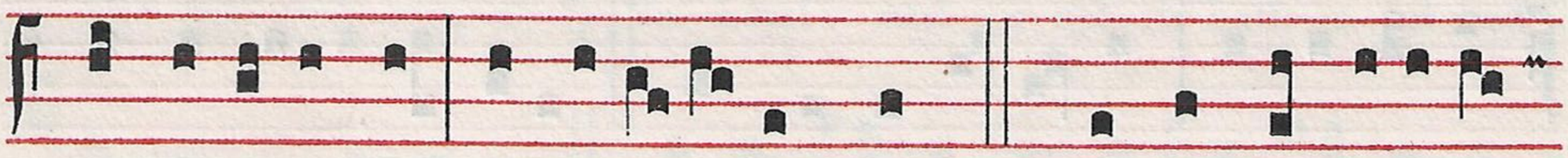
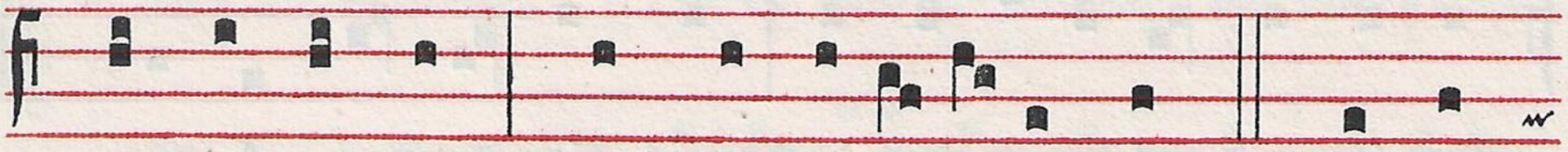
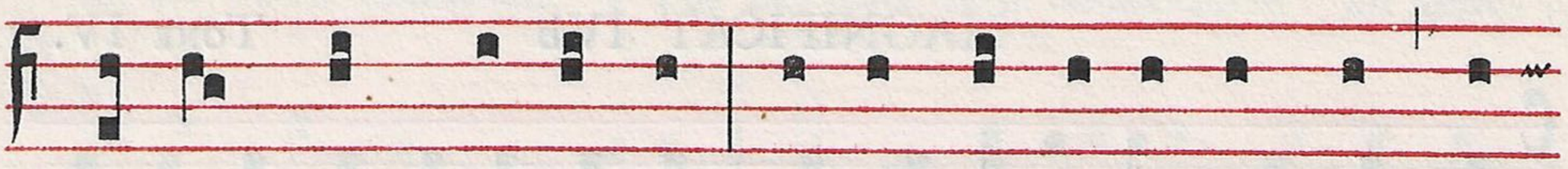


mag-ni-fi-ed me: and ho-ly is his Name. 5 And his mer-cy is on



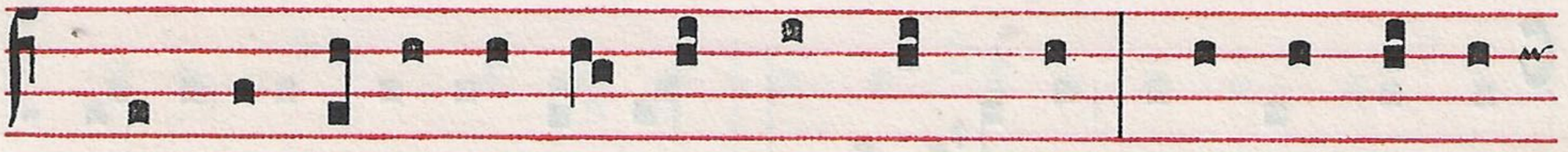
them that fear him: through-out all ge-ne-ra-tions. 6 He hath



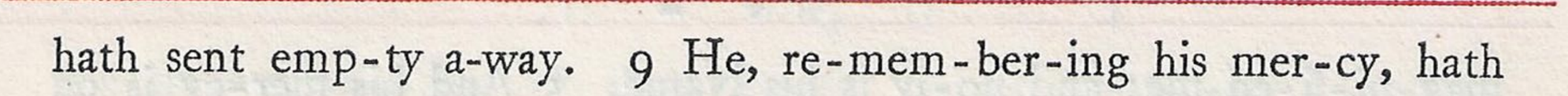
shew-ed strength with his arm: he hath scat-ter-ed the proud in

the i-mag-i-na-tion of their hearts. 7 He hath put down the

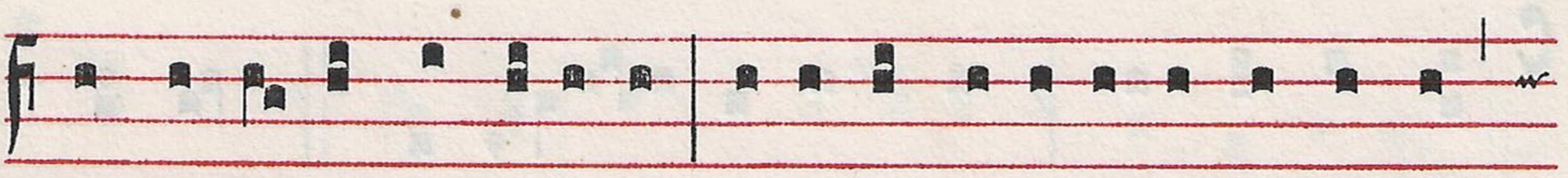
migh-ty from their seat: and hath ex-al-ted the hum-ble and meek.



8 He hath fill-ed the hun-gry with good things: and the rich he

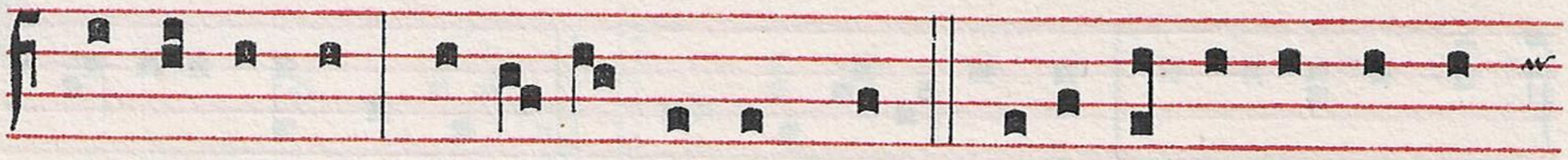


hath sent emp-ty a-way. 9 He, re-mem-ber-ing his mer-cy, hath



hol-pen his ser-vant Is-ra-el: As he pro-mis-ed to our fore-fa-thers,

A-bra-ham and his seed for ev-er. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther,

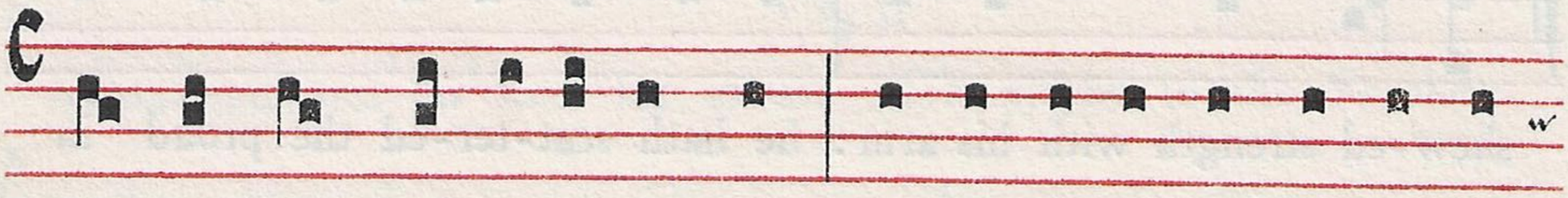


and to the Son: and to the Ho-ly Ghost. As it was in the be-gin-

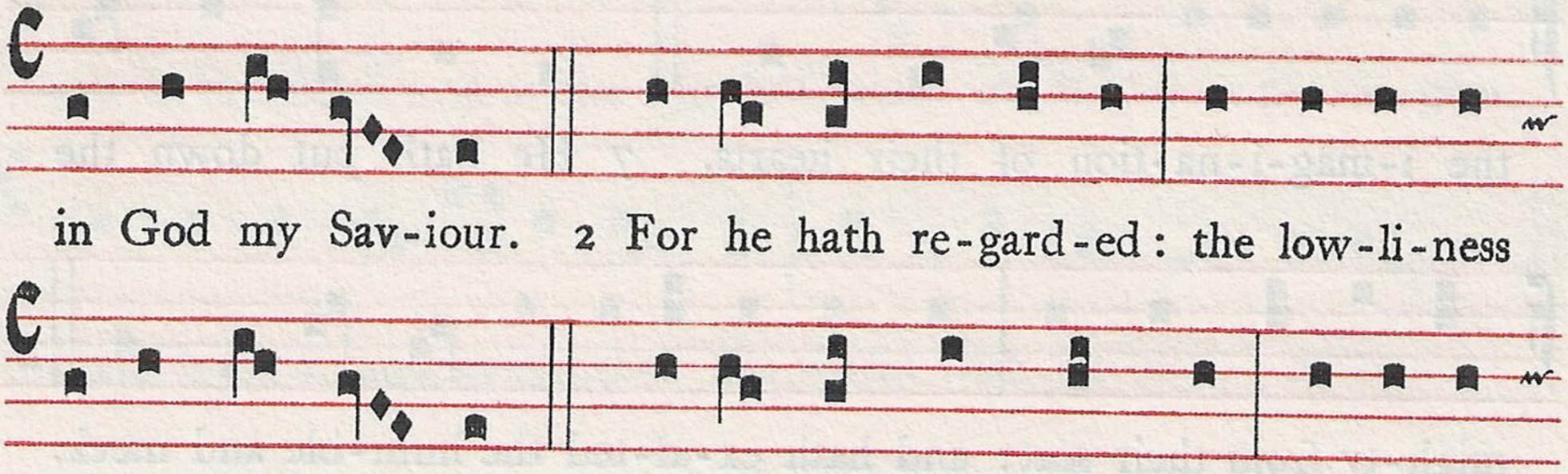
ning, is now, and ev-er shall be: world with-out end. A-men.

MAGNIFICAT IVb

TONE IV. 1

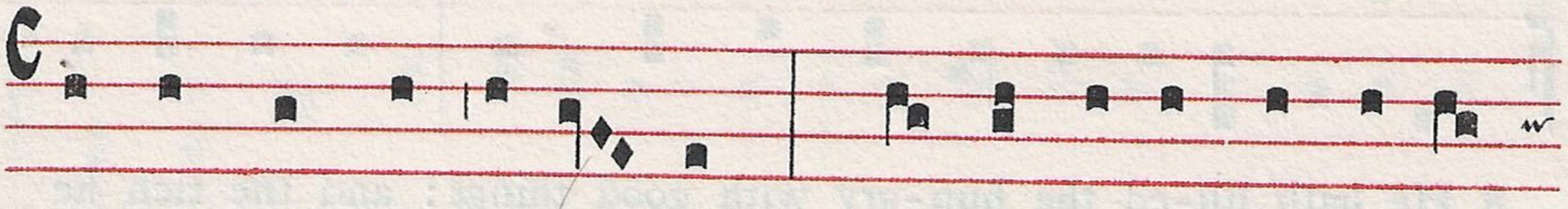


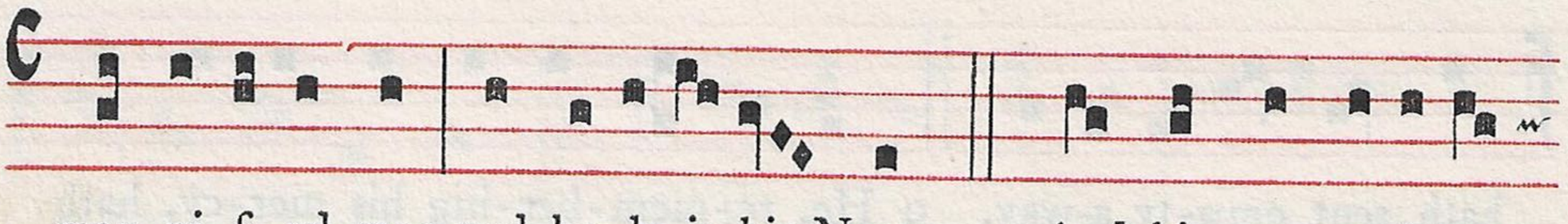
My soul doth mag-ni-fy the Lord: and my spi-rit hath re-joic-ed

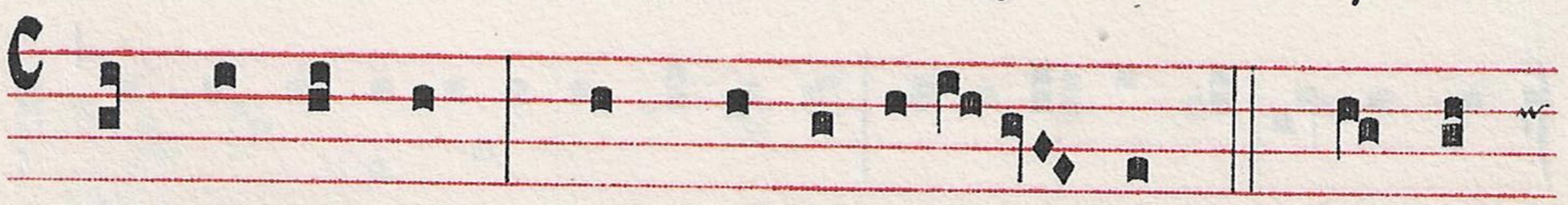


in God my Sav-iour. 2 For he hath re-gard-ed: the low-li-ness

of his hand-maid-en. 3 For be-hold from hence-forth: all ge-ne-

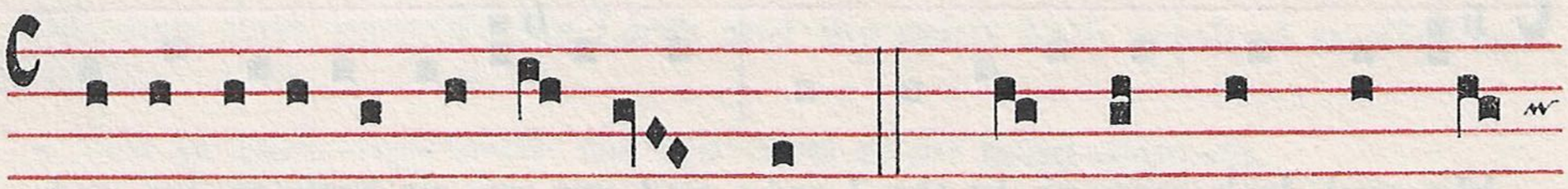


ra-tions shall call me bless-ed. 4 For he that is migh-ty hath

mag-ni-fi-ed me: and ho-ly is his Name. 5 And his mer-cy is on

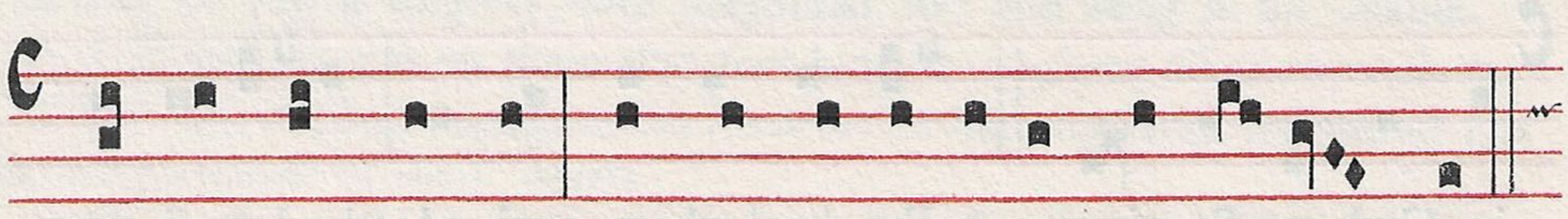


them that fear him: through-out all ge-ne-ra-tions. 6 He hath

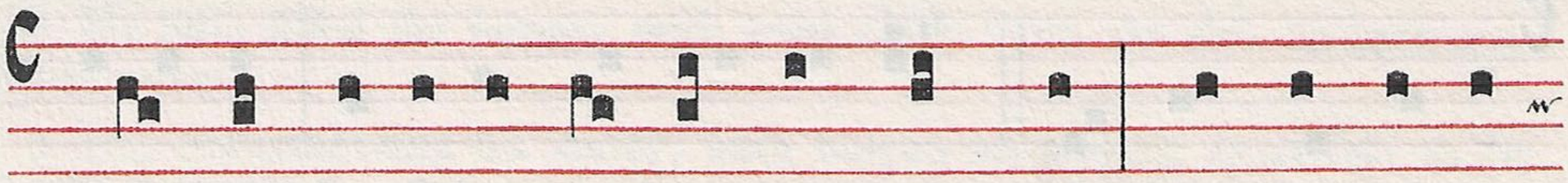
shew-ed strength with his arm: he hath scat-ter-ed the proud in

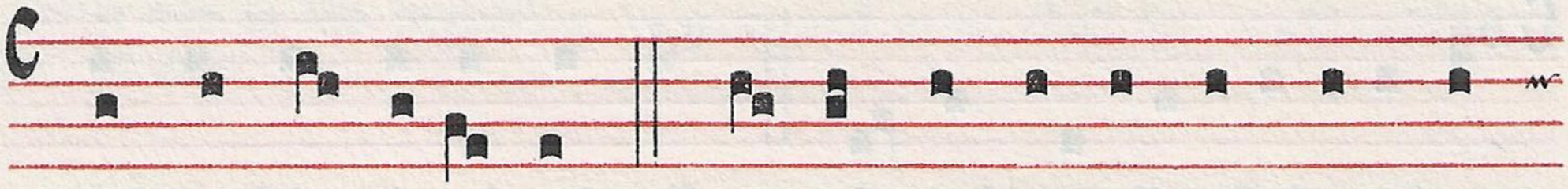


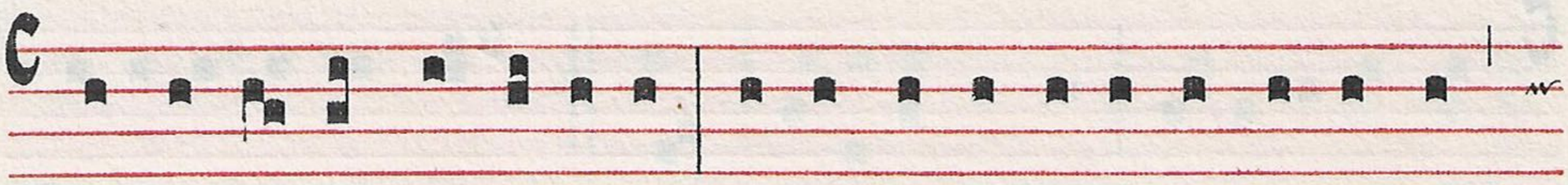
the i-ma-gi-na-tion of their hearts. 7 He hath put down the

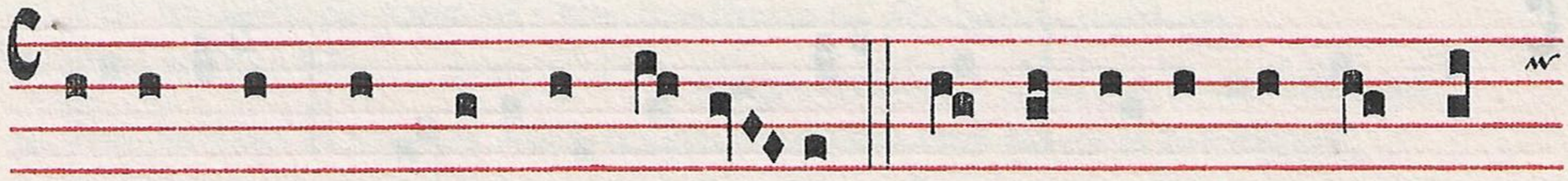


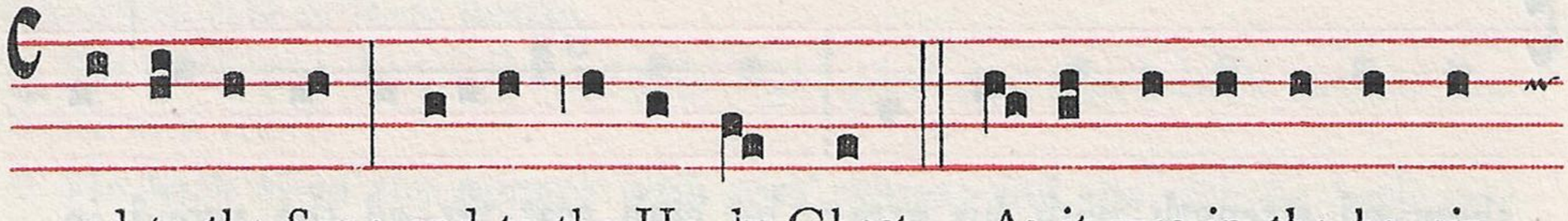
migh-ty from their seat: and hath ex-alt-ed the hum-ble and meek.



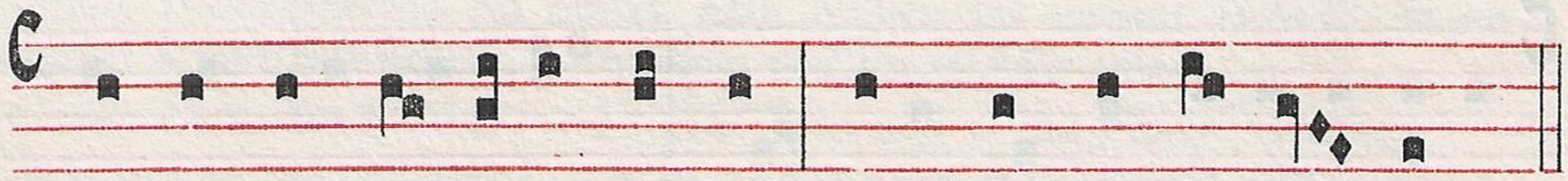
8 He hath fill-ed the hun-gry with good things: and the rich he

hath sent emp-ty a-way. 9 He, re-mem-ber-ing his mercy, hath



hol-pen his ser-vant Is-ra-el: As he pro-mis-ed to our fore-fa-thers,

A-bra-ham and his seed for ev-er. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther,

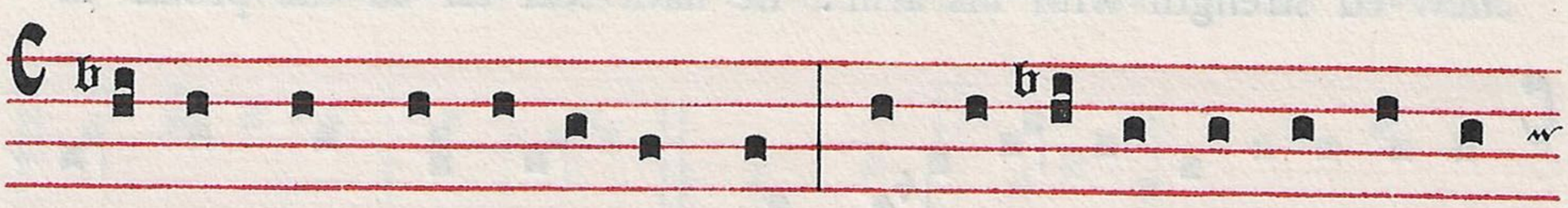


and to the Son: and to the Ho-ly Ghost. As it was in the be-gin-

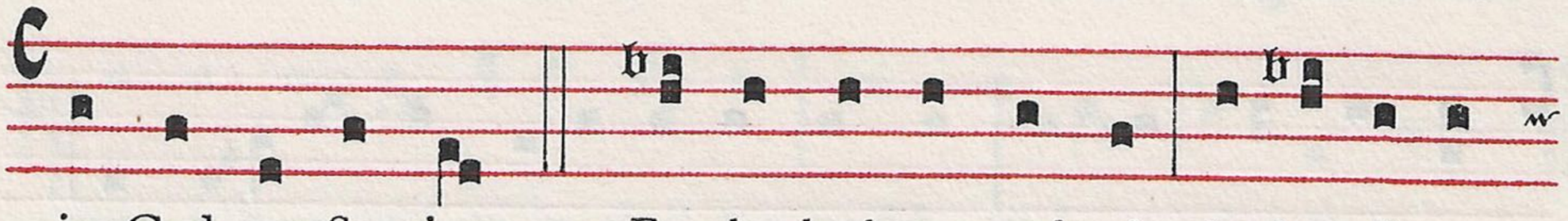


ning, is now, and ev-er shall be: world with-out end. A-men.

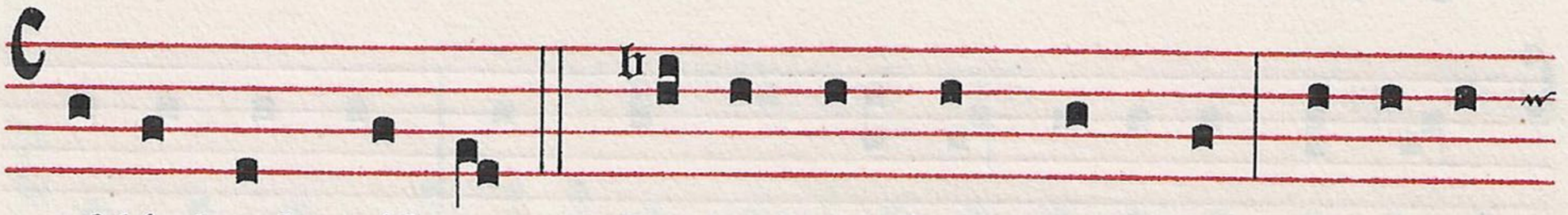
MAGNIFICAT IX — TONUS PEREGRINUS



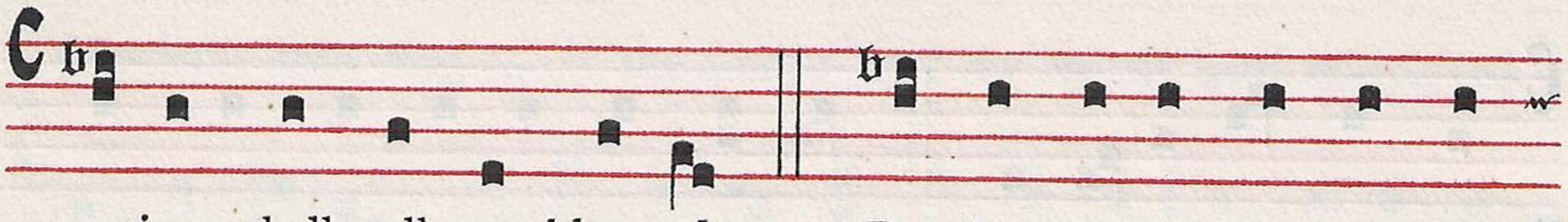
My soul doth mag-ni-fy the Lord: and my spi-rit hath re-joi-ced



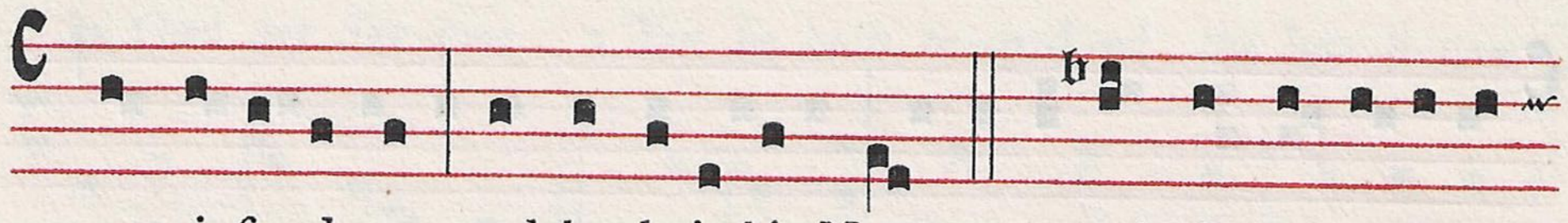
in God my Sa-viour. 2 For he hath re-gard-ed: the low-li-ness



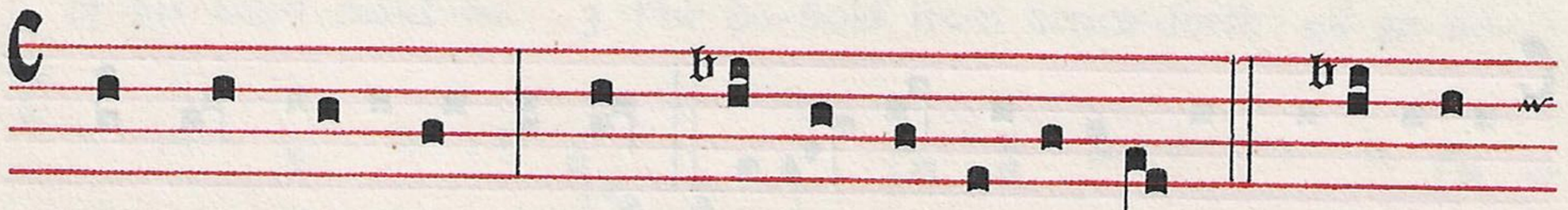
of his hand-maid-en. 3 For be-hold, from hence-forth: all ge-ne-



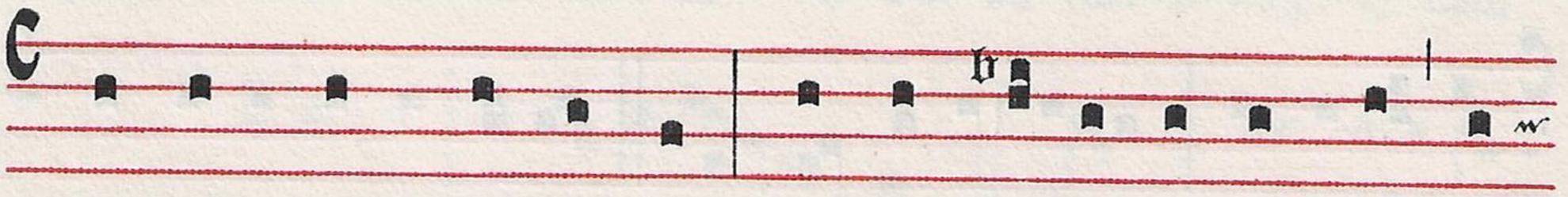
ra-tions shall call me bless-ed. 4 For he that is migh-ty hath



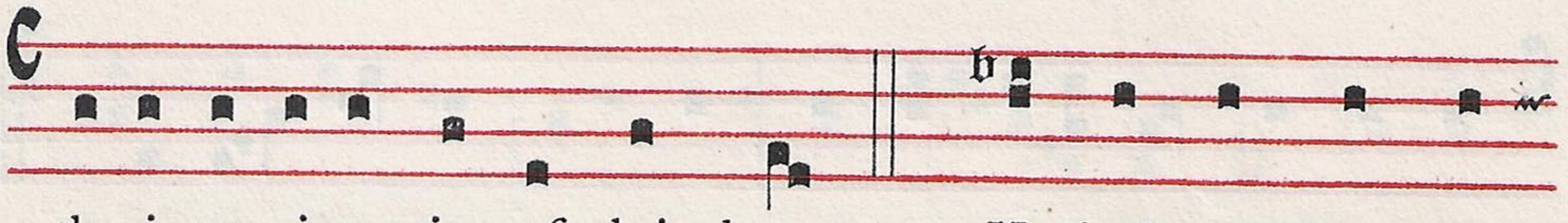
mag-ni-fi-ed me: and ho-ly is his Name. 5 And his mer-cy is on

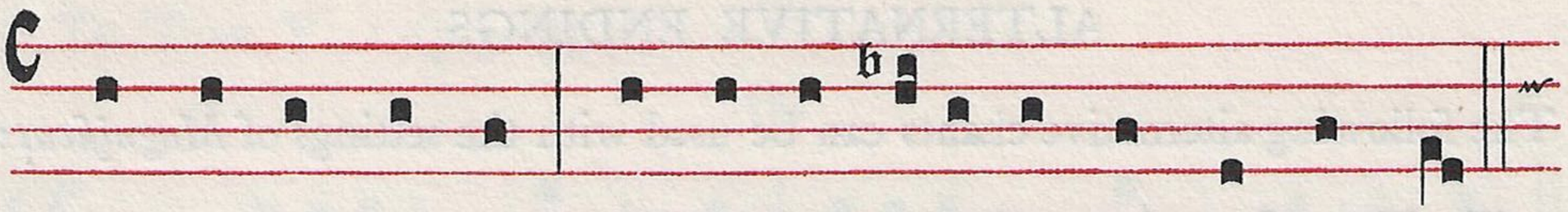


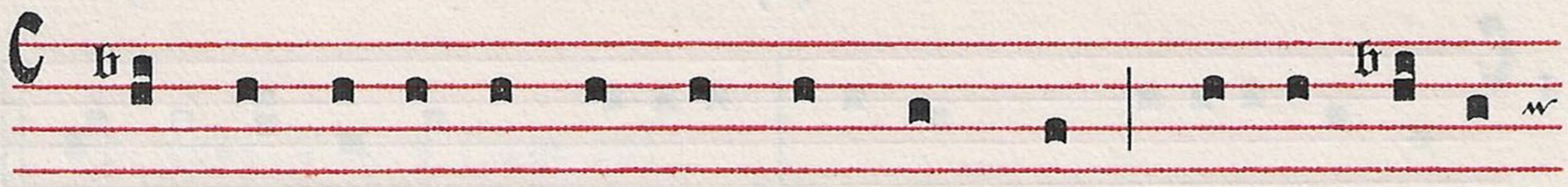
them that fear him: through-out all ge-ne-ra-tions. 6 He hath



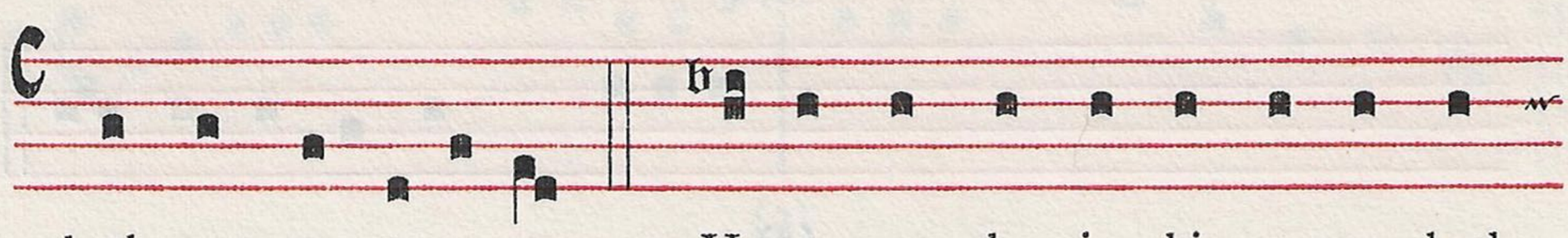
shew-ed strength with his arm: he hath scat-ter-ed the proud in

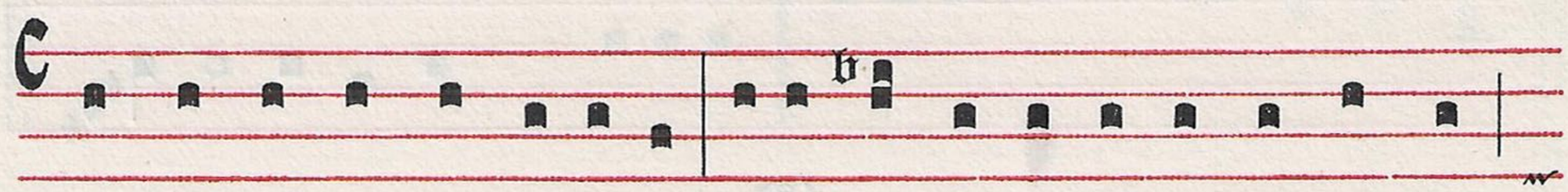


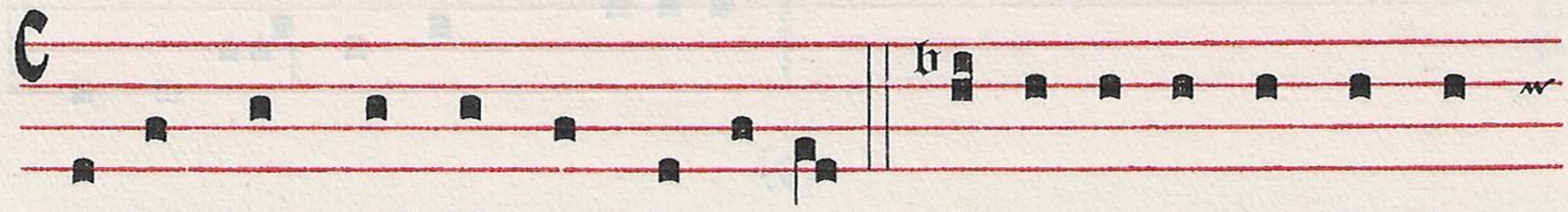
the i-ma-gi-na-tion of their hearts. 7 He hath put down the

migh-ty from their seat: and hath ex-alt-ed the hum-ble and meek.



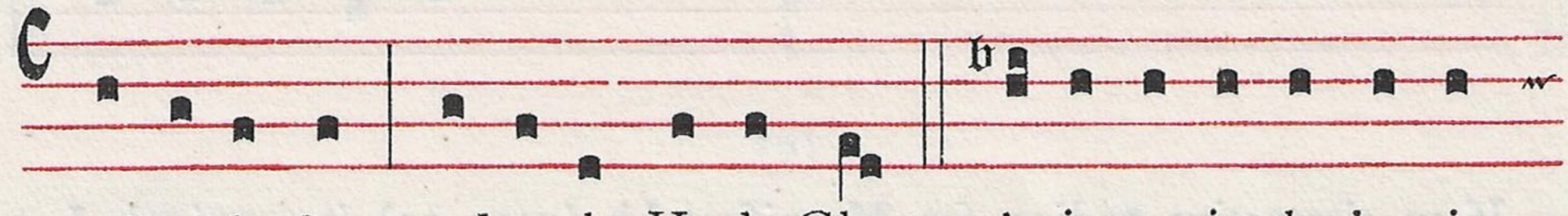
8 He hath fill-ed the hun-gry with good things: and the rich he



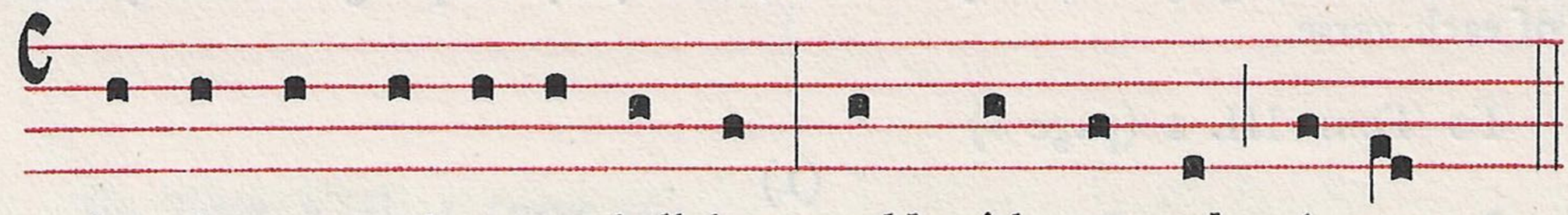
hath sent emp-ty a-way. 9 He, re-mem-ber-ing his mer-cy, hath

hol-pen his ser-vant Is-ra-el: as he pro-mis-ed to our fore-fa-thers,



A-bra-ham, and his seed for ev-er. Glo-ry be to the Fa-ther,



and to the Son: and to the Ho-ly Ghost. As it was in the be-gin-

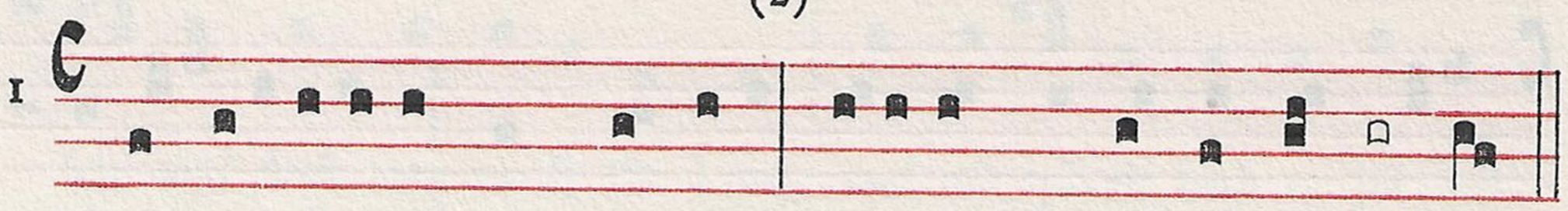


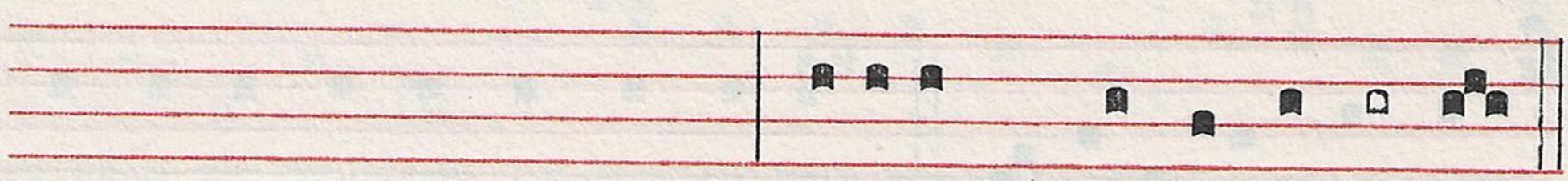
ning, is now, and ev-er shall be: world with-out end. A-men.

ALTERNATIVE ENDINGS

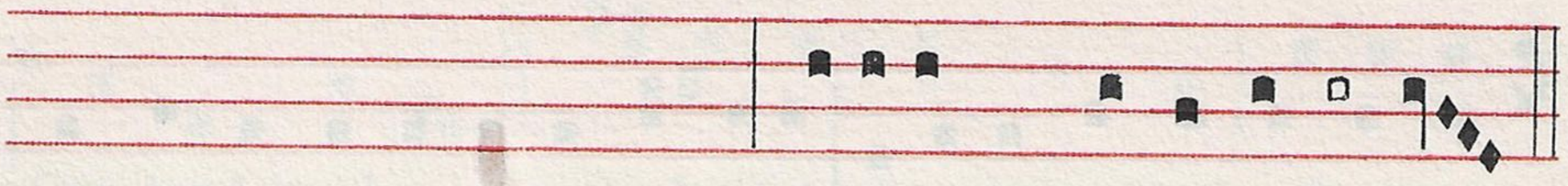
The following alternative chants can be used with the settings of *Magnificat*:

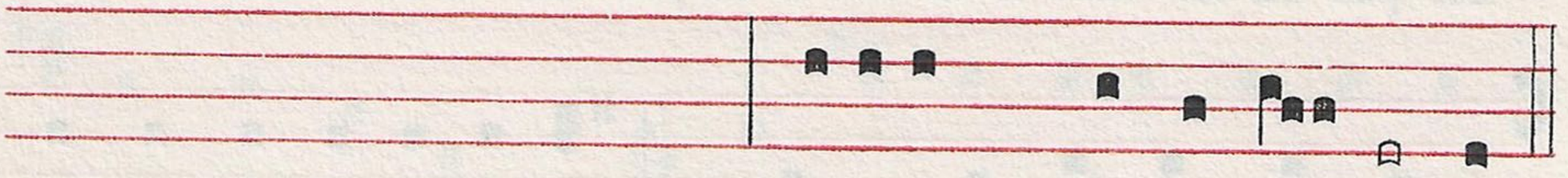
To Tone I. 1 (page 7)

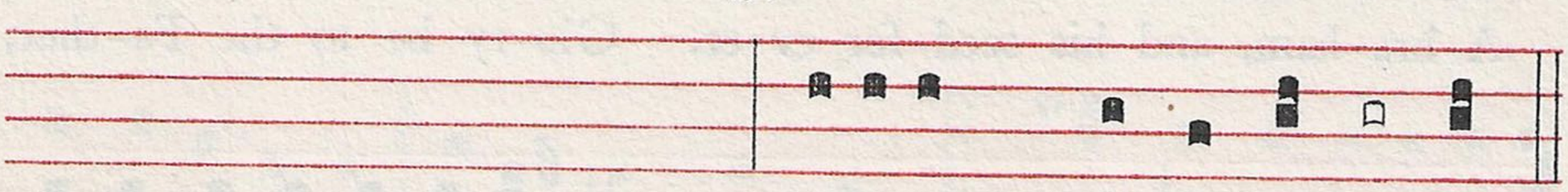
(2)

(3)



(5)



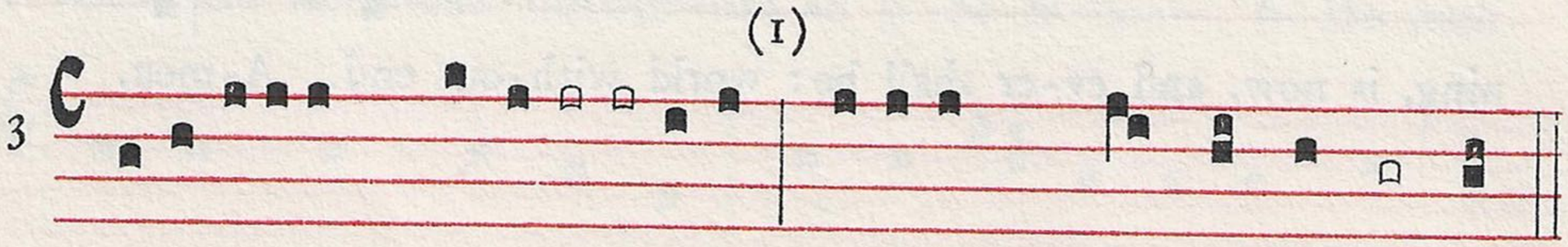
(8)

(9)



If an alternative ending for *Magnificat* I b (page 11) is required, I. 3 above, or I. 4 (page 20) may be used, merely by adapting the last syllable of each verse.

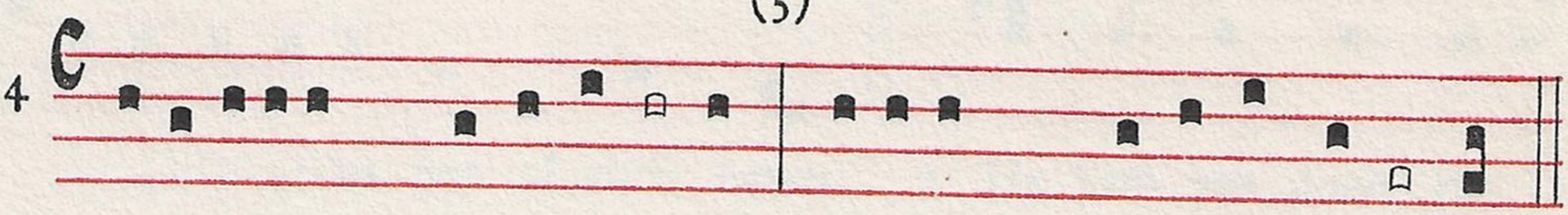
To Tone III. 2 (page 8)

(1)



To Tone IV. 4 (page 8)

(5)

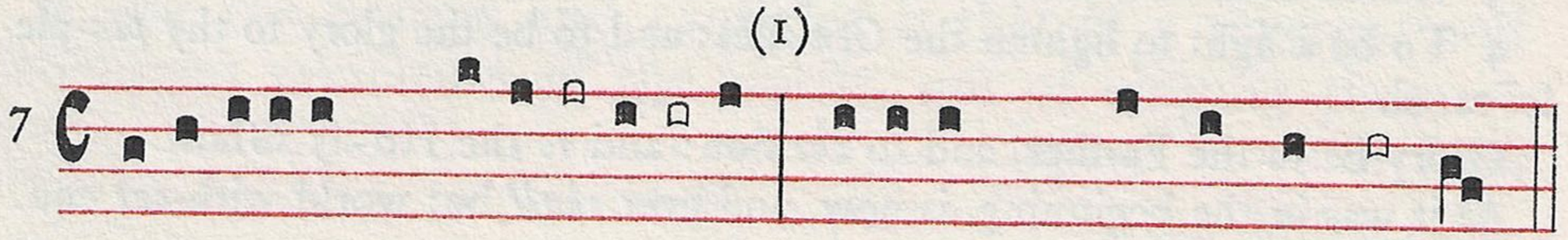


To Tone V. 1 (page 9)

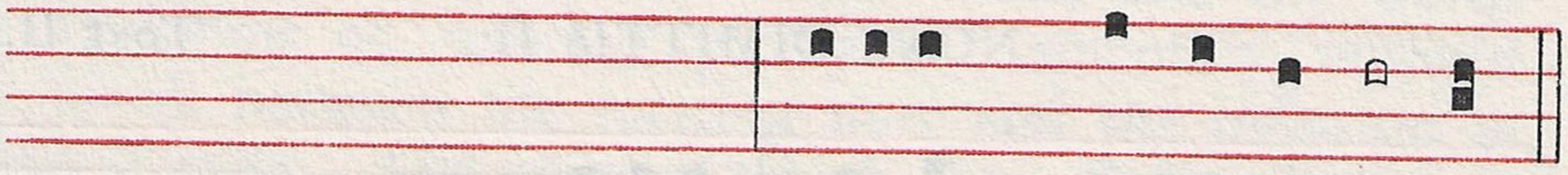
(2)

To Tone VII. 3 (page 10)

(1)



(2)



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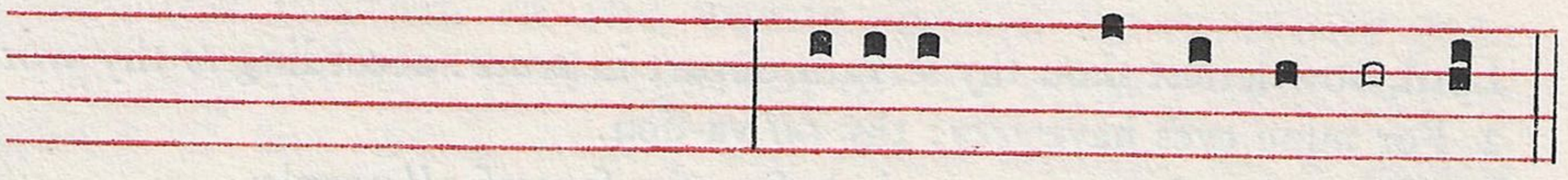
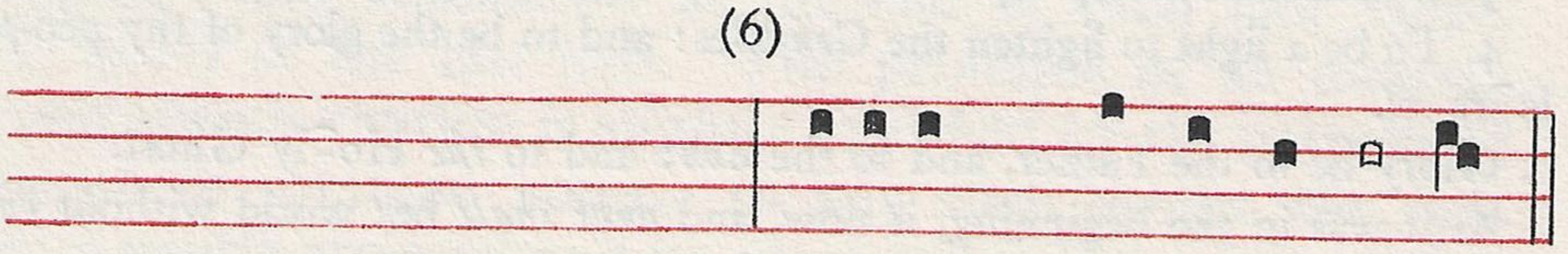


(6)



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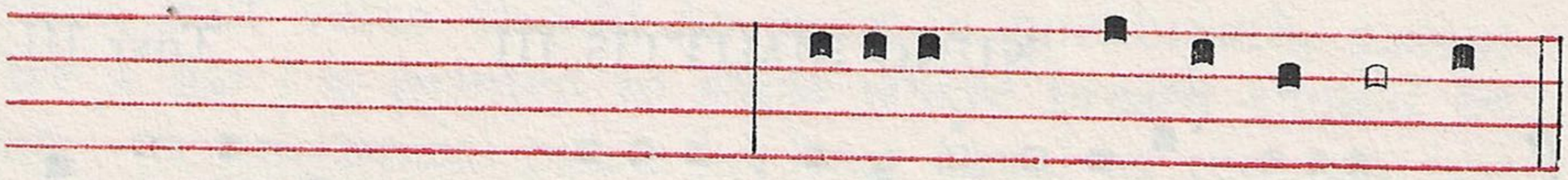
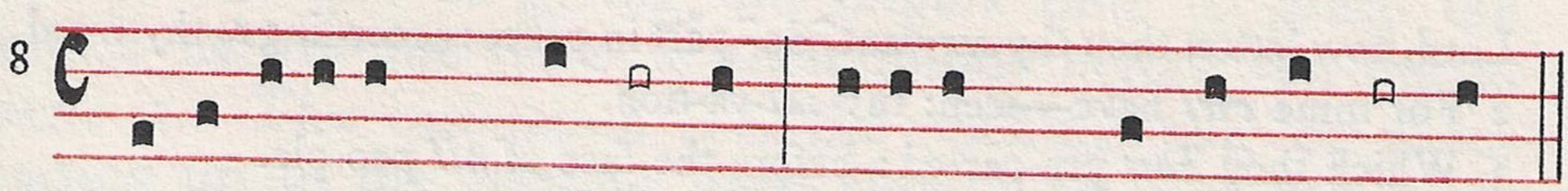
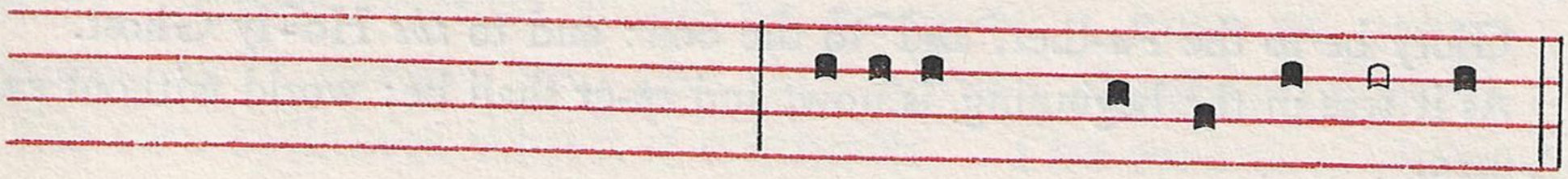


To Tone VIII. 1 (page 10)

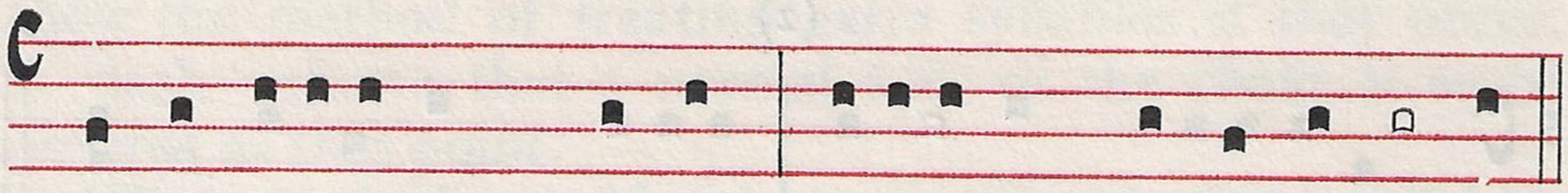
(2)



(3)



NUNC DIMITTIS I — Tone I. 4



Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depárt *in* peace: accórd-*ing* to thy word.

2 For mine éyes *have* seen:—*thy* sal-va-tion.

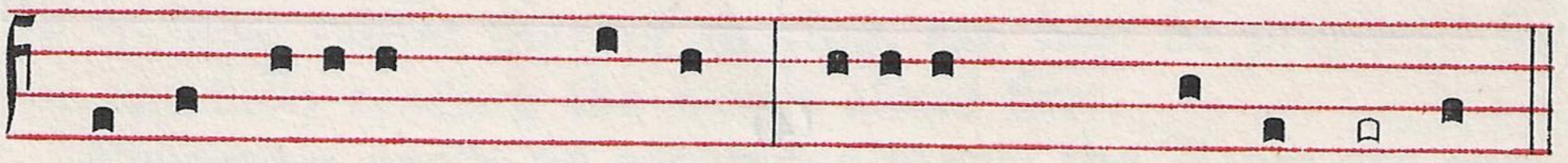
3 Which thou hast pre-*par*-ed: before the fáce *of* all people.

4 To be a light to lighten the *Gen*-tiles: and to be the glory to thy *peo*-ple Is‿ra-el.

Glory be to the Fa-ther, and to *the* Son: and *to* the Ho‿ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

NUNC DIMITTIS II — Tone II. 1



Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in *peace*: according *to* thy word.

2 For mine eyes have *seen*: thy *sal*-va-tion.

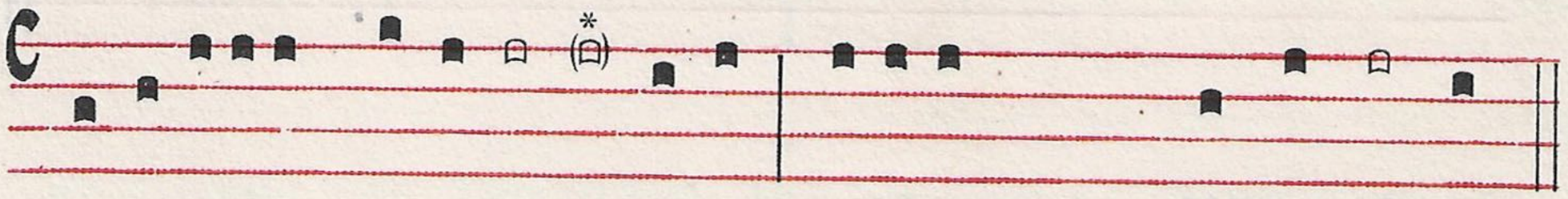
3 Which thou hast pre-*par*-ed: before the face of *all* people.

4 To be a light to lighten the *Gen*-tiles: and to be the glory of thy péo-*ple* Is‿ra-el.

Glory be to the Father, and to the *Son*: and to *the* Ho‿ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world withoút *end*. A-men.

NUNC DIMITTIS III — Tone III. 4



* *Required in verse* 1 *and Gloria.*

Lord, now lettest thou thy *ser*-vant‿de‿*pärt in peace: according *to* thy word.

2 For mine *eyes* have—seen: thy *sal*-va-tion.

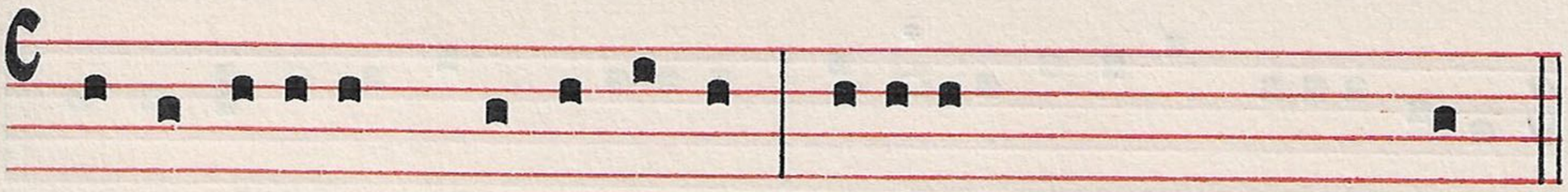
3 Which thou *hast* pre-par-ed: before the face of *all* peo-ple.

4 To be a light to *light*-en‿the Gen-tiles: and to be the glory of thy péo-*ple* Is‿ra-el.

Glory be to the *Fa*-ther,‿and‿*to the Son: and to *the* Ho‿ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and *ev*-er shall be: world without *end*. A-men.

NUNC DIMITTIS IV

TONE IV. 6

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant de-*part* in peace: according to thy word.

2 For mine *eyes* have seen: thy salvá-*tion*.

3 Which thou *hast* pre-par-ed: before the face of all péo-*ple*.

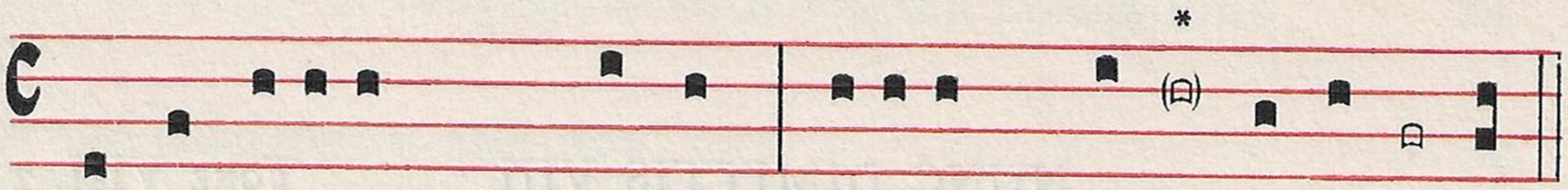
4 To be a light to líght-*en* the Gen-tiles: and to be the glory of they people Isra-*el*.

Glory be to the Father, and *to* the Son: and to the Holy *Ghost*.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and *ev*-er shall be: world with-out end. A-*men*.

NUNC DIMITTIS V

TONE V. 2



* *Required in verse 3 only.*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in *peace*: ac-*cord*-ing to thy word.

2 For my eyes have *seen*:—*thy* sal-va-tion.

3 Which thou hast pre-*par*-ed: before the *face* of all people.

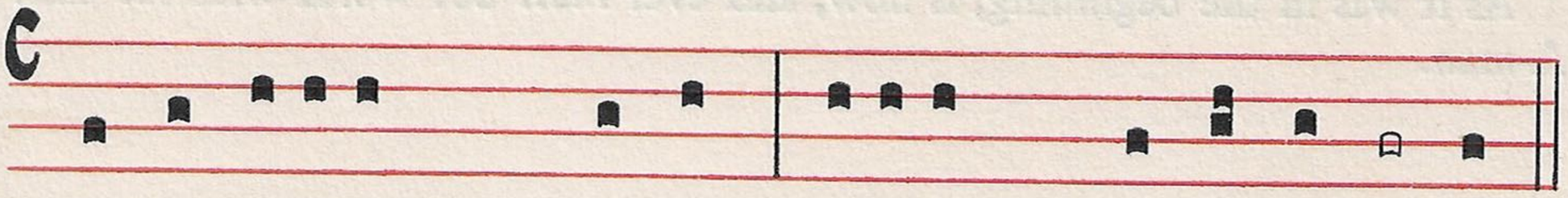
4 To be a light to lighten the *Gen*-tiles: and to be the glory of thy *peo*-ple Is-ra-el.

Glory be to the Father, and to the *Son*: and *to* the Ho-ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

NUNC DIMITTIS VI

TONE VI



Lord, now lettest thou thy ser-vant depart *in* peace: accord-*ing* to thy word.

2 For mine éyes *have* seen:—*thy* sal-va-tion.

3 Which thou hast pre-*par*-ed: before the fáce *of* all peo-ple.

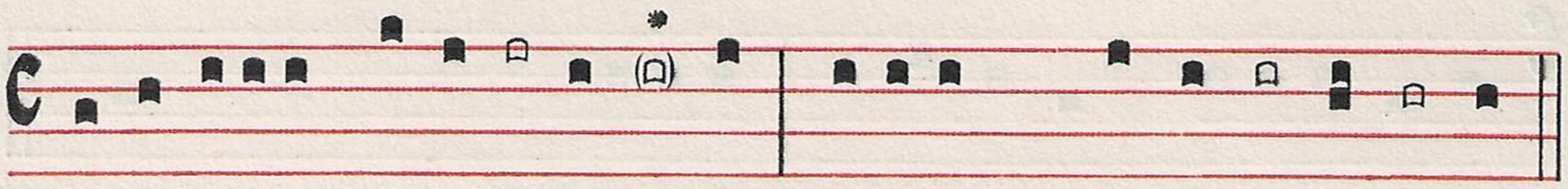
4 To be a light to lighten the *Gen*-tiles: and to be the glory of thy *peo*-ple Is-ra-el.

Glory be to the Father, and to *the* Son: and *to* the Ho-ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

NUNC DIMITTIS VII

TONE VII. 5



** Required in Gloria only.*

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant de-*part*—in peace: ac-*cord*-ing to thy word.

2 For mine *eyes*—have seen:—*thy* sal-va-tion.

3 Which thou *hast* pre-par-ed: before the *face* of all peo-ple.

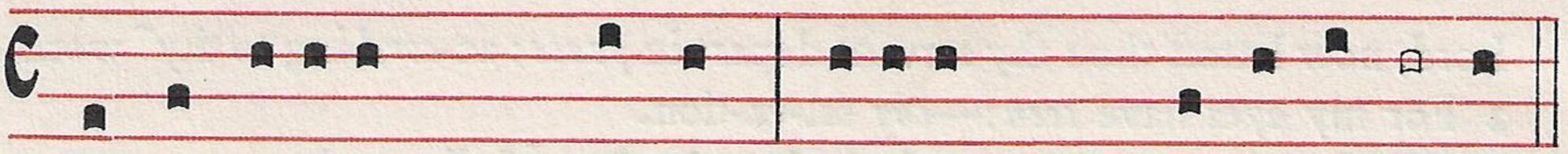
4 To be a light to *light*-en the Gen-tiles: and to be the glory of thy *peo*-ple Is-ra-el.

Glory be to the *Fa*-ther, and to the Son: and *to* the Ho-ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and *ev*-er shall be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

NUNC DIMITTIS VIII

TONE VIII. 2



Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in *peace*: accórd-*ing* to thy word.

2 For mine eyes have *seen*:—thy sal-va-tion.

3 Which thou hast pre-*par*-ed: before the fáce *of* all peo-ple.

4 To be a light to lighten the *Gen*-tiles: and to be the glory of thy *peo*-ple Is-ra-el.

Glory be to the Father, and to the *Son*: and *to* the Ho-ly Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever *shall* be: world with-*out* end. A-men.

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